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APPLICATION NO. Form PTO-1449 US Dept. of Commerce ATTY DOCKET NO. 10/577,477 (REV. 1/06) PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE 136171 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) APPLICANT(S) Masato YAMADA et al. **GROUP** FILING DATE April 27, 2006 2627 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite Initials No. Document Number Date Name 1 6,768,136 B2 07/27/2004 Eisert et al. 2 10/18/2005 Sugawara et al. 6,956,241 B2 3 2005/0255615 A1 11/17/2005 Sugawara et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS With With Examiner Cite English English Initials No. Document Number Date Country Abstract Translation JP A 2003-86838 03/20/2003 Х х 4 Japan 5 JP A 11-354837 12/24/1999 Japan Х Х 6 JP A 2003-298108 10/17/2003 Japan Х Х 7 12/10/1993 Х Х JP A 5-327012 Japan OTHER DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) Initials No. **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance Examiner: and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: March 7, 2008